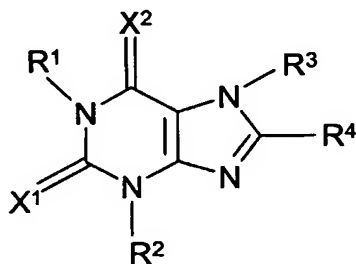


CLAIMS

1 A method of treating restless legs syndrome, comprising administering an effective amount of at least one adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist to a patient in need thereof.

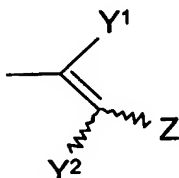
2 The method of treating restless legs syndrome according to claim 1 wherein the adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist is a xanthine derivative or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3 The method of treating restless legs syndrome according to claim 2 wherein the xanthine derivative is represented by the following formula (I):

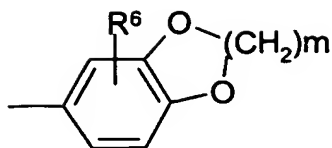


(I)

wherein R¹, R², and R³ independently represent hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, or lower alkynyl; R⁴ represents cycloalkyl, -(CH₂)_n-R⁵ (in which R⁵ represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group; and n is an integer of 0 to 4) or

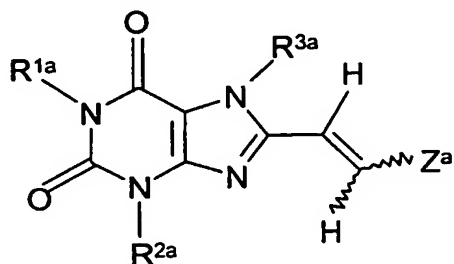


{in which Y¹ and Y² independently represent hydrogen, halogen or lower alkyl; and Z represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or



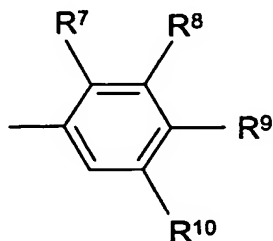
(in which R^6 represents hydrogen, hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro or amino; and m represents an integer of 1 to 3)); and X^1 and X^2 independently represent O or S.

4 The method of treating restless legs syndrome according to claim 2 wherein the xanthine derivative is represented by the following formula (I-A):

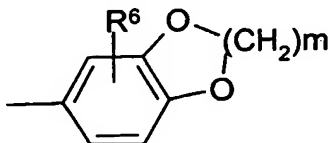


(I-A)

wherein R^{1a} and R^{2a} independently represent methyl or ethyl; R^{3a} represents hydrogen or lower alkyl; and Z^a represents



(in which at least one of R^7 , R^8 and R^9 represents lower alkyl or lower alkoxy and the others represent hydrogen; R^{10} represents hydrogen or lower alkyl) or



(in which R⁶ and m have the same meanings as defined above, respectively).

5 The method of treating restless legs syndrome according to claim 2 wherein the xanthine derivative is (E)-8-(3,4-dimethoxystyryl)-1,3-diethyl-7-methylxanthine.

6 Use of the adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist described in any one of claims 1 to 5 for manufacturing a therapeutic agent for restless legs syndrome.

7 A therapeutic agent for restless legs syndrome comprising the adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist described in any one of claims 1 to 5.

8 A method of treating nocturnal myoclonus, comprising administering an effective amount of the adenosine A_{2A} receptor antagonist described in any one of claims 1 to 5 to a patient in need thereof.